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PART-IIA

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA

NOTIFICATIONS

The 12th July, 2019.

No.WR(G)84/2011/392. - The Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to adopt the Meghalaya State Water Policy 2019 with the objective to achieve sustainable development, management and use of water resources with community participation to improve health and livelihood, reduce vulnerability, while assuring good governance for the present and future generations by promoting Integrated Water Resources Management.

The Policy is a statement of intent and will be a guiding document for achieving outcomes and deliverables.

This will come into force with immediate effect.

SAMPATH KUMAR,

Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Water Resources Department.

1 PREAMBLE

Water is a prime natural resource, which is fundamental to life, livelihood, food security, and sustainable development. With urbanization, changing lifestyle, population growth and rising needs of a developing state, the availability, affordability and sustainability of utilizable water will be under further strain in future. Lack of sufficient storage capacity of water and poor water management practices, lead to seasonal water shortage and flash floods in some parts of the State. The dependency on springs for meeting drinking water needs is very high in the State and the discharge of these springs is dwindling, leading to hardships faced by the dependent population. In addition, the distribution of water is inequitable and there is a lack of a unified perspective in planning, management and use of water resources.

Low public consciousness about judicious use of water and its economic value also results in its wastage and inefficient use. Further, lack of awareness about sanitation and hygiene is leading to contamination of water resources and increased disease burden on local communities.

The water bodies in Meghalaya are also victims of degraded catchment areas, lack of conservation and rampant mining activities. The water quality degradation has adversely impacted the aquatic life and availability of potable water. The dwindling discharge water flow during lean season leads to adverse impact on agricultural productivity and other livelihood activities.

With rising needs, aspirations and impact of climate change, availability of utilizable water in future will be under further severe strain with the possibility of increased water conflicts among different user groups.

Sustainable and equitable planning, development and management of water resources is critical for the economic development of Meghalaya and for securing good health and livelihoods of her citizens, while protecting the State's natural assets. To ensure drinking water security for the people of Meghalaya, spring-shed management will be promoted.

Considering the multiple and competing needs for water and the increased pressure on water resources, it is imperative that an integrated and holistic approach is taken for water resources management, where the various social, economic and environmental needs are balanced and met in a sustainable manner.

In addition, the increasing expectations of people to have physical access to sufficient quantity of quality water for household and livelihood opportunities, warrants a new approach towards governance, development and management of water resources in the State. Moreover, planning, development and management of Water Resources need to be done by the State Government against the backdrop of national perspectives and by enabling systems that facilitate community management of this vital resource.

2. Policy Objectives

- 2.1 The State Water Policy of Meghalaya intends to “achieve sustainable development, management and use of Meghalaya's water resources with community participation to improve health and livelihoods, reduce vulnerability, while assuring good governance for the present and future generations by promoting Integrated Water Resources Management”. Environmental sustainability and conservation, social inclusion and equity, techno economic

viability will be duly considered in relation to all aspects of governance, management and consumptive use of water resources to ensure inter-generational equity.

2.2 The specific objectives of the policy are as follows:

- (i) Recognize water resources as a common pool resource;
- (ii) Provide equitable, sustainable, economical and efficient allocation of water as a provision of water for life;
- (iii) Provide safe and hygienic water for drinking, domestic and sanitation and livelihood development to all residents of the State;
- (iv) Ensure protection and conservation of catchments all water sources to prevent degradation of the quantity and quality of water sources and promote principle of 3Rs- Reduce, Recycle and Reuse.
- (v) Enhance resilience to disasters and the impacts of climate change;
- (vi) Ensure convergence of all water related interventions and activities
- (vii) Promote latest tools, technologies, dynamic and easily accessible data and information for use by the community and other stakeholders.
- (viii) Promote and support community participation in development and management of water resources;
- (ix) Setting up of an efficient and effective regulatory framework for the water sector in order to realize the economic value of water.

3. Water Allocation Priority

Priorities for water allocation for various usages will be broadly as follows:

- (i) Drinking water, sanitation and other domestic needs
- (ii) Minimum ecological needs
- (iii) Irrigation/Agriculture
- (iv) Hydropower generation
- (v) Economic activities / Industrial Use / Fisheries
- (vi) Other usages

4. Project Planning and Implementation

4.1 Comprehensive assessment of water resources in the State would be undertaken as follows:

- (i) Mapping of rivers, streams, springs and other water bodies on watershed basis for their conservation and sustainable use;
- (ii) Water assessment of both surface and ground water for both availability and quality ; and
- (iii) Prepare an inventory of developmental projects of both surface & ground water projects, under the Water Sector, taking into account the demand-supply pattern.

4.2 Multi-disciplinary and integrated efforts will be undertaken for planning of water resources projects, at the Village/Town level, according to priorities set out in this policy. The concept of water as a Common Pool Resource would be considered to ensure equitable access to water. Viable traditional methods of water resources management and traditional community knowledge regarding the water resources along with the modern tools, technologies and approaches would be used in project planning.

4.3 Being inter-disciplinary in nature, water resources projects should be planned considering

social and environmental aspects also, in addition to techno-economic considerations. Consultation with project affected and beneficiary families to ensure rehabilitation of and compensation for affected people wherever applicable. Catchment area management, environmental and ecological concerns, to maintain minimum water flow throughout the year and provision for fish movement will be considered during project planning. Special focus would be given to quality of project preparation and project management to reduce time and cost overruns and sub-optimal realization of benefits.

- 4.4 Private sector and civil society participation, wherever feasible, may be encouraged in planning, development and management of water resources project as this may help in introducing innovative ideas, generating financial resources, introducing corporate management and improving service efficiency and accountability to users.
- 4.5 The Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach, with emphasis on finding reasonable and generally acceptable solutions for most of the stakeholders, should be followed for planning and management of water resources projects. Integrated Watershed development activities, need to be taken in a comprehensive manner to increase soil moisture, reduce soil erosion and increase overall land and water utility. To the extent possible, existing programs may be used by farmers to harvest rain water using farm ponds and other soil and water conservation measures.
- 4.6 The State would encourage creation of multipurpose reservoirs to promote water security, create livelihood opportunities and enhance power generation through Run of the River Schemes. Wherever feasible, development for navigation may be kept in mind right from the planning stage.
- 4.7 Similarly, small water storage structures for rainwater harvesting and Ground Water Recharge, spring-shed development and spring rejuvenation would be promoted to improve water security. Ground water resources would also be explored for the purpose, wherever it is a cost-effective solution. Conjunctive use of water would be promoted to balance demand-supply of water throughout the year.
- 4.8 The concept of inter-linking of rivers may be taken into consideration, as and when the need arises, to ensure equitable distribution of water resources.
- 4.9 Use of surplus water as an economic good will be promoted through export of surplus water to water scarce regions for the interest of the State and the Country as a whole.
- 4.10 Financing for developmental projects will be based on expected outcome, current status, needs, opportunities, fund requirement, and priority be given for completion of on-going projects and rehabilitation of existing schemes.
- 4.11 Project implementation should be structured to incentivize efficient & economic use of water. All components of water resources projects should be planned and executed in a pari-passu manner so that intended benefits start accruing immediately and there is no gap between potential created and potential utilized.
- 4.12 Areas of convergence with other departments would be identified and concerned government departments/ agencies would be involved, wherever required in the entire project lifecycle.
- 4.13 Concurrent monitoring of project should be undertaken for timely interventions to avoid

time and cost over-runs.

- 4.14 Monitoring and evaluation system would be established to identify bottlenecks for timely redressal and to analyze the impact of projects.
- 4.15 A system would be established by the Meghalaya's State Dam Safety Organization (SDSO) to undertake safety audit of bigger dams in the State at periodic intervals to identify and manage safety risks and ensure safety of the dam and mitigate adverse impacts.

5. Participatory Water Resource Management

- 5.1 A coherent and coordinated approach would be adopted to promote community and other stakeholders participation in planning and management of water resources to ensure self-sufficiency of water for villages and for promoting localized water utilization and decentralized water management. Therefore, it will be the fundamental duty of each & every citizen to play an active role in Participatory Water Resource Management.
- 5.2 In its endeavour to ensure safe water for domestic use and sanitation and water for livelihood activities, the State would empower and develop the capacity of communities to develop, regenerate and sustainably manage available water resources.
- 5.3 Efforts would also be made to encourage the associations of beneficiaries/ water users to own up the responsibilities to operate, maintain and manage the water infrastructures in the State. Steps would be taken, in collaboration with the communities, to ensure the sustainability of the water infrastructures.
- 5.4 The community and other stakeholders would be emphasized to take up reclamation of the abandoned degraded mines and old quarry areas. The community will also be encouraged to take up cleaning of rivers from time to time.
- 5.5 Protection and preservation of Fish Habitat and sanctuaries will be promoted through Community participation.

6. Conserving, Harnessing and Promoting Efficient Use of Water Resources

- 6.1. Appropriate actions will be taken to conserve and rejuvenate existing rivers, springs, reservoirs and to maintain their water quality and flow rate especially during the lean period. Conservation consciousness would be promoted through education, regulation, incentives and disincentives. For conservation of water resources, more focus may be on activities that have the possibility to minimize negative impacts and such activities should be planned and prioritized phase wise on a broad timeline.
- 6.2. In planning process, all the water usages/ demands and water availability will take into account the minimum ecological needs.
- 6.3 Regulation and management of water from all sources will be done in an integrated manner to ensure conservation and sustainable use of this resource. Appropriate regulations will be formulated for use of surface water and extraction of ground water for domestic use and commercial purpose.
- 6.4 Improved land and water management practices, such as catchment area treatment and protection, protection and preservation of water resources, protection from land degradation,

preservation of forest, afforestation of upper catchments, control of Jhum cultivation, riverbank protection and construction of check dams and field ponds would be promoted. Catchment area management plans would be prepared and implemented with community participation.

- 6.5 Payment for Environmental Services (PES) would be adopted which would be based on “beneficiary pays principle”. The PES model would be adopted and implemented by upstream and downstream communities for conserving the water resources and revitalizing the catchment upstream and stopping further degradation.
- 6.6 Sustainable harnessing of water resources such as roof top rain water harvesting, Jalkunds, springshed development, multipurpose reservoirs etc., would fulfill the needs of water not only for domestic use but also for livelihood development and income generation activities. In view of this, appropriate water resource projects would be promoted wherever feasible and viable. Roof top rainwater harvesting alongwith ground water recharge mechanism will be made mandatory in all building constructions and for which the concern authority would enforce.
- 6.7 Recycle and reuse of water, after treatment to specified standards, would also be encouraged.
- 6.8 Water saving mechanism in irrigation systems such as micro irrigation (drip, sprinkler, etc.), and seepage control methods would be encouraged. Recycling of canal seepage water through conjunctive ground water use may also be considered.

7. Adaptation To Climate Change

- 7.1 As per the future climate projections, rainfall is projected to increase in the Meghalaya State and the possibility of bringing extreme climate events is also likely to increase. The climate change may cause flash floods in certain parts while other parts of the State may experience water stress.
- 7.2 Climate change is likely to increase the variability of water resources affecting agriculture, water security, safety, human health and livelihoods. Therefore, special impetus should be given towards risk assessment and mitigation by proper project planning and monitoring and by enhancing the capabilities of community to adopt climate resilient technological options.
- 7.3 The anticipated increase in temporal and spatial variability in availability of water due to climate change can be dealt by adopting suitable design of engineering structures, flood zone mapping, assessment of sediment load, developing adaptive storm water management practices and slope stability measures, increasing water storage in its various forms, namely, soil moisture, ponds, ground water, small and large reservoirs and their combination.
- 7.4 Revival of traditional water harvesting structures, springs and water bodies will be promoted through programmes for repair, renovation and restoration.
- 7.5 Preparation of a water management plan with Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) approach that leads to conserving water, minimizing waste and ensuring equitable distribution across various users will be promoted. The IWRM should take into

consideration the urban water and sanitation infrastructure and services which are adaptable to changing population and circumstances.

- 7.6 The adaptation strategies could also include better demand and use management, particularly, through adoption of compatible agricultural strategies and cropping patterns and improved water application methods. Similarly, industrial processes should be made more water efficient.
- 7.7 Stakeholder participation in land-soil-water management with scientific inputs from local research and academic institutions for evolving different agricultural strategies, reducing soil erosion and improving soil fertility will be promoted. The specific problems of hilly areas like sudden run off, weak water holding capacity of soil, erosion and sediment transport and recharging of hill slope aquifers would be adequately addressed.

8. Water Budgeting

- 8.1 A system would be evolved for water budgeting at the village level which would be reviewed periodically. The approach to water budgeting would be through awareness creation about water resources and the need for water conservation, community participation for chalking out water management strategies, conducting Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) in the village, preparation of base map incorporating both quantity and quality of water bodies in the village, assessment of surface and ground water resources, including springs, assessment of demand for various sectoral uses, preparation of Operational Plan for water management and training of water volunteers.
- 8.2 The existing setup available at the village level of the Meghalaya Institute of Natural Resources (MINR) under the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) will be strengthened to take up this exercise.

9. Water Supply & Sanitation

- 9.1 Efforts would be made to provide piped water supply in Rural Areas with provision for house connections with level of water supply as per applicable guidelines and availability of resources.
- 9.2 For Urban Areas, piped water supply will be provided with house connection and per capita supply as per the guidelines laid by CPHEEO, New Delhi from time to time.
- 9.3 Efforts would be made to provide good and consistent service and delivery system to provide good quality water. Multiple sources for drinking water supply will be encouraged to ensure water security. Recycle and re-use of water after treatment to specific standards would be encouraged to ensure water sustainability.
- 9.4 Industries would be allowed to withdraw only the required quantity of water with the approval of the Authority and would have an obligation to return used water after treatment to a specified standard back to hydrological system. The Industries need to follow the principle of three R's - reduce, reuse and recycle.
- 9.5 Water allocation in irrigation system has to be done with due regard to equity and social justice. Disparities in the availability of water between head-reach and tail-end farms and between large and small farms should be obviated by adoption of a rotational water distribution system.

- 9.6 Hydro power projects should emphasise to develop hydro projects for maximum power generation keeping in view water needs of not only human beings and animals but also of flora and fauna of the downstream of the project site.
- 9.7 Water loss due to leakages, pilferage etc.would be reduced.
- 9.8 Rain Water Harvesting with ground water recharge mechanism would be mandatory in all buildings constructed in Urban, Rural and Industrial areas and would be encouraged in existing building structures in all urban, industrial and rural areas.
- 9.9 Tendency to pollute both ground and surface water would be prevented by enacting necessary legislation or amending existing acts / laws.
- 9.10 Sewerage System with viable technology for the State would be implemented both in Urban and Rural Areas. The system will ensure that Grey water will be separated from the Black water and the same will be treated for reuse.

10. Management of Flood & Drought

- 10.1 A system for flood forecasting and warning would be established. In addition, disaster management plan and operation procedures would be prepared in consonance with the Water Policy and implemented with community and civil society participation. Latest technology interventions and strategies will be adopted to minimize the impact of floods.
- 10.2 Encroachments and diversion of water bodies and water channels, both in rural and urban areas, should not be allowed and, wherever it has taken place, it should be restored to the extent feasible and maintained properly through community participation. The storage capacities of water bodies and water courses may be managed to the extent possible in an integrated manner to control the flooding.
- 10.3 In order to prevent loss of land eroded by the river, which causes permanent loss, revetments, spurs, embankments, etc., should be planned, executed, monitored and maintained on the basis of morphological studies. This will become increasingly more important, since climate change is likely to increase the rainfall intensity, and hence, soil erosion.
- 10.4 Land, soil and water management with scientific inputs from local, research and scientific institutions would be used to evolve different agricultural strategies and improve soil and water productivity to manage droughts. Integrated farming systems and non-agricultural developments may also be considered for livelihood support and poverty alleviation.

11. Water Quality

- 11.1 Sources of water and water bodies should not be allowed to get polluted. A system of periodic inspection would be evolved following specific standards and stringent actions be taken against the persons responsible for pollution.
- 11.2 A regulatory mechanism will be established to ensure smooth operation and the "Polluter pays concept", either monetary or non-monetary, will be adopted.

- 11.3 Urban settlements, encroachments and any developmental activities in the protected upstream areas of reservoirs/water bodies, key aquifer recharge areas, that pose a potential threat of contamination, pollution, reduced recharge and those endangering wild and human life should be strictly regulated.
- 11.4 In urban and industrial areas, installation of sewage/effluent treatment plant would be made mandatory.
- 11.5 Quality conservation and improvements are even more important for ground waters, since cleaning up is very difficult. It needs to be ensured that industrial and local cess pools effluents, residues of fertilizers and chemicals, etc., do not reach the ground water.
- 11.6 Efforts would be taken to prevent entry of fertilizers and pesticides into the water system in the State. Steps would be taken to monitor and regulate dumping of solid waste and discharge of untreated waste water from industry, mining activity or urban waste such as household, market, medical solid waste directly into the water bodies.
- 11.7 Efforts to prevent that the use of river water for domestic activities will be such that there is no pollution of river waters.

12. Water Tariffs

- 12.1 Pricing of water would ensure its efficient use and conservation. Water being a Common pool resource, its equitable access to all and its fair pricing for domestic and other uses such as sanitation, agricultural and industrial would be ensured. This would be arrived at through an independent statutory Water Regulatory Authority, to be set up after wide ranging consultation with all stakeholders.
- 12.2 Water Users Associations (WUAs) in Irrigation projects would be given authority to collect and retain a portion of water charges, manage the quantum of water allotted to them and maintain the distribution system in their jurisdiction. WUAs would be given the freedom to fix rates subject to approval by Water Regulatory Authority.
- 12.3 In order to meet equity, efficiency and economic principles, the water charges would preferably be determined on volumetric basis. Such charges should be reviewed periodically.
- 12.4 In respect of drinking water both in Rural and Urban Areas which is generated and distributed by Meghalaya Public Health Engineering Department, Meghalaya Public Health Engineering Department would be given responsibility to fix water tariff in consultation with Regulatory Authority and to manage the quantum of water allocated to the consumers and collect the water tax accordingly.
- 12.5 Introduction of a system of differential pricing and Reverse metering system concept to incentivize water harvesting, recharge and judicious consumption.

13. Research, Awareness and Capacity Building

- 13.1 Continuing research and advancement in technology shall be promoted to address issues in the water sector in a scientific manner. Innovations in water resources sector should be encouraged, recognized and awarded.
- 13.2 Awareness generation among general public shall be promoted to enhance their knowledge of judicious use, management and conservation of water in a sustainable

manner. Citizens are to be sensitized to enhance civic participation in protection of water sources with the sense of ownership.

- 13.3 The State Government Departments/ Agencies would undertake capacity building of all stakeholders including relevant government departments/ agencies, autonomous district councils, communities, water associations, civil societies and contractors engaged in development or management of water infrastructures to enable them to perform their respective roles and responsibilities in an effective and collaborative manner. A process of certification of the trained cadre at community level would also enable them to have better livelihood opportunities. Efforts would also be made to instill the sense of ownership and accountability in the users.

14. Data Management and Information System

- 14.1 A State Water Resource Data Centre established under National Hydrology Project shall house all water related data, which would be integrated with well defined procedures and formats to ensure online updates and transfer of data, to facilitate development of database for community empowerment, decision making and evidence building in the management of water. The integrated data systems should be, as far as possible, open, dynamic, real time and granular and sharable data will be easily accessible to the community and other stakeholders. This database would become a tool for future planning, development, regulation and governance of water resources in the State and including climate change studies.

Data for community empowerment would be broad based collection but non-repudiable digital assets. Shareable and non classified data can be accessed by the public after consent & privacy of the users.

15. Trans-Boundary Rivers

- 15.1 International aspects of cross-country rivers shall be dealt by the Union Government in consultation with the State. The inter-state water sharing and project implementation along the border areas shall be resolved with due regard to water resources availability and need and to the existing land tenure system in the State.
- 15.2 Monitoring systems to be established / installed at the entry and exit points of all major transboundary rivers to aid in the assessment of water resources in the state.

16. Institutional Arrangements

- 16.1 Meghalaya State Water Resources Council under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister would take care of policy planning and co-ordination of the activities of various Departments/Agencies Government as well as Civil Society Organizations involved with the Water Sector.
- 16.2 A State Water Regulatory Authority would be setup under a suitable state legislation to provide the regulatory framework for the water sector. This regulator would be responsible for regulating the use and discharge of water, fix/review water tariff, resolution of water related conflicts and overseeing that sufficient environmental safety measures are undertaken. The Authority would encourage institutional harmony between the traditional or customary community institutions and State agencies to improve the water governance framework and to prevent or arrive at early resolution to water related disputes in the State.

- 16.3 State Level Committee on Ground Water Resources re- estimation Committee under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary/ Commissioner & Secretary/ Secretary , Water Resources Department would estimate annual replenishable Ground Water Resources of the State and its utilization.
- 16.4 Meghalaya Water Resources Development Agency shall co-ordinate all departments dealing with water related activities in the State and will be suitably strengthened to improve its implementation capacity
- 16.5 Meghalaya Institute Of Natural Resources under Meghalaya Basin Development Authority shall coordinate with all the Village Water Resources Councils to oversee its activities relating to the water sector, including the exercise for preparing water security plans and annual water budget plans.
- 16.6 District Water Resource Development Council would be empowered to coordinate all activities in the district involving the water sector and to ensure that projects and programmes are implemented in accordance to their respective guidelines from time to time and to ensure convergence wherever possible.
- 16.7 District Level Committee on Ground Water Resources will oversee to the ground water management and development in the Districts and will ensure sustainable usage of this resource.
- 16.8 Autonomous District Councils would be provided appropriate assistance to improve their efficiency and effectiveness in development/construction or rehabilitation of water infrastructures and for protection and improvement of water catchment areas within their jurisdiction. They would also be made more effective in water management. Autonomous District Councils would have representation in various Committees involving Water Sector.
- 16.9 Block Water Resource Development Council would be created to coordinate all activities in the blocks involving the water sector and to ensure that projects and programmes are implemented in accordance to their respective guidelines from time to time and to ensure convergence wherever possible.
- 16.10 Village Water Resources Councils with adequate women representation would be created to manage their water resources and related infrastructures under the purview of the Regulatory Authority.

17. Implementation Strategy For The State Water Policy

- 17.1 The State would ensure that Government Departments and other institutions at various levels under the Water Sector will be appropriately strengthened and even created, wherever necessary, to enable them to carry out their mandated responsibilities with respect to the implementation of Water Policy. Subsequently, the State Water Act will be evolved. Special emphasis would be given to ensure that institutional framework and institutional mandates are conducive and supportive of inter-institutional, inter-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination, collaboration and convergence.
- 17.2 The Meghalaya State Water Resources Council would review the existing acts and

regulations related to water sector and align them to effectively implement this policy and will evolve a State water Act based on the State Water Policy to be approved by the State. The State water Act would evolve as an umbrella statement of general principles governing the exercise of legislative and/or executive powers by the State and the local governing bodies. The Water Act would also recognize water not only as a scarce resource but also as a sustainer of life and ecology. Therefore, water would be considered as a Common Pool Resource to achieve food security, livelihood, and equitable and sustainable development for all.

- 17.3 The Meghalaya Water Resources Development Agency would co- ordinate all line departments with respect to the implementation of the Water Policy.

18. Conclusion

- 18.1 This policy has been framed taking into consideration the needs and aspirations of the people concerned and the complexities involved in solving the various water-related issues. The State fully understands that the objectives of this policy can be achieved with the concerned Departments playing their role as per their mandate along with support from all other stakeholders who would also be required to carry out their respective roles and work in a collaborative manner to meet the objectives of this policy.
- 18.2 This policy will be supported by legal instruments and supplemented with implementation strategies and action plans with specific targets, measurable indicators, timelines and progress against these will be continuously monitored.
- 18.3 The State Water Policy may be reviewed /revised periodically as and when the need arises.

The 13th August, 2019.

No.SW (S) 8/2006/Pt. II/208. - The Meghalaya State Policy for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, 2019 is hereby circulated for information and compliance of all concerned.

T. DKHAR,

Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Social Welfare Department.

Meghalaya State Policy for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (MSPEPD)

Preamble

Appreciating the affirmation of applicability of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the International Bill of Human Rights as reflected in the United Nation Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

Further recalling the regional action through UNESCAP (The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) in developing and promoting the Incheon Strategy and the 2nd Asia Pacific decade of the Disabled.

Recalling the universal application of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including but not limited to SDGs 4, 8, 10, 11, 16 and 17 which specifically mention persons with disabilities.

Recognizing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

Noting that India is a signatory to the Marrakesh Treaty for technological solutions.

Respecting and adhering to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and its commitment to 21 disabilities, including those with BMD and HSN¹

Further recalling the Right To Education 2009 and Amendments thereof in 2012.

Also recalling the National Trust Act, 1999 and the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992.

The Government of Meghalaya has developed this State Policy for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.

1. Introduction

The Constitution of India ensures equality, freedom, justice and dignity of all individuals and implicitly mandates an inclusive society for all, including persons with disabilities. In recent years, there have been vast and positive changes in the perception of the society towards persons with disabilities. It has been realized that a majority of persons with disabilities can lead a better quality of life if they have equal opportunities and effective access to rehabilitation measures.

According to the Census 2011, there are 2.68 crore persons with disabilities in India who constitute 2.13 percent of the total population. In Meghalaya the number is 44317, which constitutes about 1% of the population. This includes persons with visual, hearing, speech, locomotor, intellectual and mental disabilities. Nearly 80% of this population resides in rural areas. While this Census 2011 figure is the basis for all policies and strategies, it is well accepted that the actual number of persons with disabilities in Meghalaya could be more. The earlier emphasis on medical rehabilitation has now been replaced by an emphasis on social inclusion and rehabilitation from a rights-based approach. There has been an increasing recognition of the abilities of persons with disabilities and emphasis on inclusion in all spheres of mainstream life, including but not limited to, education, employment/livelihoods/decent work, family and community life, political processes, health, legal capacities, and development strategies and programs.

Three international trends need specific mention here. First, the global perspective of disability has changed from an **individual** with special needs construct to a **societal barriers construct** which prevents their effective participation. Second, the world has witnessed a paradigm shift from a **charity/welfare** model of disability-rehabilitation to a human **rights based model** of disability-inclusion, which views ALL persons of a country as equal citizens with equal access to civil, political, economic, social and cultural RIGHTS guaranteed under their respective Constitutions. Third, is that the world community has evidence-based research to prove that enablement- related investments in persons with disabilities can, and do, greatly **ENHANCE** the country's economy as a whole, substantially reducing the costs for life-long rehabilitation measures.

2. Situational Justification

The new Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (*RPWD Act, 2016*), has come into force with effect from 19th April, 2017 and the earlier Act stands repealed. In the period between 1995, when the old Persons with Disabilities Act was enacted, and now in 2017, Government of India stands committed to several International

Instruments and legal mandates on Disability. Governments and civil society now have a better understanding of the abilities of people with disabilities, and their rights to equal opportunity and full participation. These new principles, values of inclusion and participation must be reflected in new policies. The Government of Meghalaya views persons with disabilities as an integral part of society and affirms its commitment to their rights and entitlements. This new Policy seeks to create operational synergy through multi-sectoral collaboration between appropriate Government Departments, to reflect contemporary thought and action enshrined in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

3. Objectives of the State Policy

- a) To promote, protect and ensure the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities in the State of Meghalaya as enunciated in Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- b) To collect and disseminate reliable and comparable data on disability disaggregated by type, gender, economic status, age and rural–urban residence.
- c) To ensure the inclusion of the rights of persons with disabilities, into all government developmental strategies, planning and programs cutting across the life-cycle needs of persons with disabilities.
- d) To develop a convergent and inter-sectoral Plan of Action for achieving operational synergy in the coordination of disability planning, implementation and monitoring.
- e) To create a State-wide awareness and sensitization program for government personnel at all levels which promotes positive perceptions about the abilities of persons with disabilities and dismantles barriers which prevent their full and effective participation in mainstream society
- f) To develop effective mechanisms / measures / infrastructure for the early identification of disability, and appropriate rehabilitation measures including for persons with disabilities who are profoundly excluded and most vulnerable, with special reference to women, the elderly and children with high support needs in remote areas.
- g) To ensure that all Disaster Risk Reduction plans at the State and District level take into consideration the specific requirements of persons with disabilities as enshrined in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

- h) To provide for technology adaptations in developing programs, and systems related to inclusive education, employment, social protection measures etc.
- i) To understand disability as a cross-cutting issue which goes beyond the boundaries of one department, into the domains of several Departments.

4. Principles

The State policy of Meghalaya for the empowerment of persons with disabilities is based on ten principles.

1. Autonomy, self-determination and enablement of persons with disabilities and their families.
2. Comprehensive Accessibility–ACAP (Accessibility, Communication, Attitude and Participation).
3. Reasonable Accommodations and Affirmative Action.
4. Universal Design and Universal Design of Learning.
5. Inclusion across all spheres and all aspects of life.
6. Equity in gender and opportunity.
7. Respect for and appreciation of Human Diversity as an en-richer in the fabric of community life.
8. Commitment to the Life-Cycle Approach.
9. Respect for the Legal capacity of persons with disabilities.
10. Capacity Building and Perspective Building.

(Details about the 10 Principles are given as Annexure 1)

5. The Government of Meghalaya is committed to the following areas:-

Specific Areas of Intervention:-

- i. Prevention, Early Detection and Early Intervention.
- ii. Inclusive Preschool and School Education.
- iii. Inclusive Higher and Technical Education.
- iv. Inclusive Livelihoods, Decent Work .
- v. Social Protection Measures/Schemes.
- vi. Independent living and other living options of choice.
- vii. Community based inclusive development.

- viii. Development of adequate professional expertise-HRD.
- ix. Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies.
- x. Promotion of Participation in Political Processes.
- xi. Assistive Devices that promote independence, mobility and communication and use of technology.
- xii. Accessibility.
- xiii. Commitment to, and understanding of, the full legal capacity of all persons with disability.
- xiv. State-level Coordination and Convergence Mechanisms.
- xv. Role of Civil Society Organizations, Disabled People's Organization and Parents Organization.
- xvi. Role of State Disability Commissioner
- xvii. Continuation of existing schemes/benefits for persons with disabilities as well as initiation of new schemes/benefits/reservations for persons with disabilities as mandated in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 with special focus on women and children with disabilities.

5. i. Prevention, Early Detection and Early Intervention.

5. i. a. *Prevention-primary, secondary and tertiary.*

Primary prevention of disability through micronutrient supplements for pregnant women, and lactating mothers and tracking of High-risk pregnancies through Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) and Aanganwadi workers AWW) and referral to medical centers where necessary is an important area of intervention.

Another important activity would be to promote Institution-based deliveries where it would be possible to follow-up high risk neonates with high Appearance Pulse Grimance Activity Respiration (APGAR) scores, Low Birth Weight (LBW), neonatal jaundice, obvious disabilities, low /high tone etc. This would facilitate Well-Baby clinics to have additional Surveillance for those identified as High Risk Babies. This should be accompanied by provision of quick transportation for tertiary care for those with risk factors.

Training for ASHA and AWW in prevention and early identification will be added to training of adolescent girls and boys on High Risk factors for delays and disabilities.

5. i. b. Early Detection and Early Intervention.

Early detection is the key to good functional outcomes for children with disabilities. Screening of all children in the community, schools and Aanganwadi centres should be mandatory, and a planned and coordinated transfer of skills to Aanganwadi Workers in early intervention/inclusion in pre-school programs would ensure better readiness for school readiness.

Necessary training will be imparted to family members of children with delayed development in stimulation techniques in the 4 major domains of child development (gross and fine motor, communication, cognition and social-emotional). Towards this end, appropriate material will be developed in local languages, pictorial as far as possible.

Government will strive to start early intervention centers in every district hospital (**currently there are only 4, in West Garo Hills District, West Jaintia Hills District, East Khasi Hills District and West Khasi Hills District**). Efforts will be made to screen all new born babies and children in these centers to prevent the incidence of disabilities. These centers should have strong referral chain for specialized interventions at tertiary level.

5. ii. Preschool and School Education

(Primary & Secondary Education for children with disabilities)

Inclusion in pre-school is critical to later inclusion. Government of Meghalaya will provide for quality Inclusive education, (free and compulsory) – ensuring access, retention and transition in school and in home-based situations. Special schools, where so chosen by families, to be resource centers on inclusive education should aim to prepare children with disabilities (cwds) for inclusive education. There should be synergy and bi-directional linkages between Regular and Special schools for education and support services as well as between Regular Teachers and Special Educators.

Regular capacity building in inclusive education at pre-service and in-service levels should be available for general teachers as well as for special educators.

Children with disabilities will be encouraged to complete the elementary cycle, and drop-outs will be encouraged to return to school and supported by curriculum adaptations and other innovative strategies to access, and succeed in completing elementary and secondary education.

Non profit organizations working in the disability sector should collaborate with Government organizations in supporting inclusive education for all children with disabilities by providing reasonable accommodation in accessible environments and using appropriate technology to master skills in science, mathematics and other subjects.

The introduction of Universal Design of Learning, along with alternative methods of teaching and evaluating, will ensure that all children learn together in environments that are respectful of diversity and the richness that diversity brings to classrooms.

To make these new ideas work across the State, Sensitization programs for the whole Education Department shall be organized and systemic changes effected to ensure that Inclusive Education becomes a part of the whole system rather than as a parallel and vertical program.

Efforts to provide hostels for students with Disabilities from remote and inaccessible areas will be made to ensure uninterrupted flow of schooling.

5 % Reservation as per Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 will need be effected for benchmark disabilities, in Government and Government aided Institutions with upper age relaxation of 5 years.

Inclusion in Adult education programs for persons with disabilities is crucial to their inclusion in community life.

5. iii. Higher and Technical Education

Government of Meghalaya will provide reservations as per Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 in institutes of higher education and in technical education, to better prepare them for employment and work. This includes 5 year relaxation in age for admission, sensitization of all personnel, provision of scholarships and assistive devices. It will also strive for establishment of an Institute of Disabilities Studies.

5. iv. Livelihoods, Decent Work

This is the key to a good quality of life for persons with disabilities, leading to social inclusion, family life and respect from others. In keeping with section 34 (1) the Government of Meghalaya will provide for 4% reservation in government employment and continuity in employment as provided in section 20 of the Act.

Emphasis will also be laid for inclusion in formal & non-formal vocational & skill training schemes along with adequate support & facilities to avail training. Additionally, Government will endeavour to provide for exclusive skill training for persons with developmental, intellectual, multiple disabilities & autism, including loans & microcredit at concessional rates and support for marketing of their products.

In employment, as in education, reasonable accommodation and barrier free and conducive environment will be ensured. Opportunities for employment and decent work shall be made available in rural areas as well.

The Government shall strive to ensure that there shall be no denial of promotion on ground of disability and that no Government establishment shall dispense with or reduce in rank, an employee on acquiring disability with the proviso: of shifting to other post in case of incapacity or Supernumerary post until a suitable post is available.

Government may frame policies for posting & transfer of employees with disabilities for their training and self employment. There shall be no denial of promotion on ground of disability and no Government establishment to dispense with or reduce in rank, an employee on acquiring disability.

Government will undertake Identification of posts for respective categories of Benchmark Disabilities (BMD) by an Expert committee with representation of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities, and review of such identified posts will be after every 3 years.

The new Act assures 4% reservation of total vacancies in cadre strength in each group of post in Government: 1% in (a) to (c) and 1% in (d) & (e) which are (a) blindness and low vision; (b) deaf and hard of hearing; (c) locomotor disability including Cerebral Palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victims & Muscular Dystrophy; (d) autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability & mental illness; (e) multiple disabilities from amongst persons under clauses (a) to (d) including deaf-blindness.

Government of Meghalaya will ensure that **every establishment notifies equal opportunity policy in the** manner as prescribed by Central Govt. and a copy of the policy will be registered with the Commissioner.

It is mandatory that a Grievance Redressal Officer is appointed and this information too must be given to the Commissioner.

5. v. Social Protection Measures/Schemes

Both horizontal and vertical measures are envisaged, which means inclusion of persons with disabilities in existing developmental and poverty reduction schemes of the Meghalaya Government, in every sector specifically for persons with disability, giving priority to women with benchmark disabilities.

As envisaged in section 37 of the Act, 5% Reservation in 3 categories — a) agricultural land and housing schemes and development programs with priority for women with Benchmark Disabilities b) reservation in all poverty alleviation and developmental programs with priority for women with Benchmark Disabilities and c) reservation in allotment of land on concessional basis, with priority for women with Benchmark Disabilities — for housing, shelter occupation, business, enterprise, recreation and production center.

The Government shall endeavour to extend Insurance schemes programs, Social Protection measures, Concessions, Facilities and Allowances etc. to within limit of its economic capacity. It will also formulate schemes to safeguard and promote their right for adequate standard of living to enable them to live independently or in the community where the quantum of assistance at least 25 % higher than the similar schemes for others while due consideration is to be provided to diversity of disability, gender, age and socio-economic status.

5. vi. Independent living and other living options of choice

The new Act gives persons with disabilities several options for living arrangements, including living independently. Government of Meghalaya shall strive to make appropriate arrangements so that persons with disabilities have a range of options to choose from and shall ensure that they are not forced to live in places not of their choosing.

5. vii. Community based inclusive development

As envisaged in the Act, Government of Meghalaya shall strive to provide 5% reservation in all developmental programs, poverty alleviation programs in urban and rural areas to be used for purpose of promoting housing, shelter, setting up of occupation, business enterprise, recreation centres and production centres. All programs are to be benchmark-disability inclusive, with special priority to women with benchmark disability.

5. viii. Development of adequate professional expertise – HRD

The Government shall strive to invest in the development of human resources in disability management and rehabilitation so as to ensure that quality services are provided by qualified rehabilitation professionals catering to all disabilities. Towards this end, Government of Meghalaya will make all possible efforts to increase the number and quality of Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) – approved regular courses, including courses in Autism, Deaf-blindness, Cerebral Palsy, and Multiple Disabilities. Training Colleges offering B.Ed. will be encouraged to offer Special B.Ed. courses. Universities should be encouraged to offer M.Ed. (Special Ed) and institute Disability Studies Units. The State Government will work more closely with RCI and the National Institutes to upgrade and increase its disability-professional base.

5. ix. Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies

The Government of Meghalaya shall further strengthen its efforts to include people with disabilities in the planning, implementation and monitoring of all disaster risk management services at the lowest level of administration to ensure that people with disabilities are not excluded during disasters and calamities, as enshrined in the Sendai Framework.

5. x. Promotion of Participation in Political Processes

The Government shall ensure accessibility to polling booths, non-discrimination in standing for election and political processes at every level of government including local government. Towards that end, all election-related material will be made available in accessible formats for all persons with disabilities.

5. xi. Assistive Devices that promote independence, mobility and communication and use of technology

Persons with disabilities require devices that support mobility, independent functioning and communication so as to overcome barriers and participate more effectively on an equal basis with others in all spheres of community life. Assistive devices of good quality, that are appropriate, accessible and affordable should be made available to persons with disabilities as and when they are needed for mobility and independence. Technology plays an important part as an equalizer in education, employment, recreation and in the full enjoyment of social life.

5. xii. Accessibility

The Government of Meghalaya will strive to provide accessibility, in its broadest sense, to include comprehensive accessibility which refers to accessibility, communication, attitude and participation of people with disabilities. Transportation is a major issue for persons with physical and sensory disabilities in hilly areas. Communication needs of all persons with disabilities, attitudinal change among the general public and consultative processes including people with disabilities will be a priority with the Government.

5. xiii. Legal Capacity and Guardianship

Persons with disabilities are now recognized as having full legal capacity, capable of making their own decisions, with access to the judicial system on an equal basis with others. However, in some instances, given that there may be some communication, physical and attitudinal barriers that exist in society, they require special legal support from district level onwards. Special Prosecutors will be provided, and special courts shall hear their cases, and all legal material will be provided in accessible formats.

In some cases for those with benchmark disabilities and high support needs, Limited Guardianship is to be arranged for special and limited periods only.

5. xiv. State-level Coordination and Convergence Mechanisms

Disability is a cross-cutting issue, and the life-cycle needs of persons with disabilities cannot be addressed through any one Department alone. Development of an effective and efficient coordination mechanism is imperative for the successful delivery of services, benefits, concessions and rights of persons with disabilities. This multi-sectoral effort shall be an important part of the State policy, and should be designed and implemented between all departments and in consultation with Persons with disabilities, their parents and their representative organizations.

5. xv. Role of Civil Society Organizations, DPOs and Parents Organization(POs)²

Meghalaya has vibrant civil society organizations, DPOs and Parents Organisations. They should be fully involved in participatory modes in all plans, programs, events and in monitoring roles as well. The new Act mandates active involvement, participation, capacity-utilization and talent-promotion of persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others in all spheres of community life including in sports, culture, performing and fine arts apart from health, education, employment and social inclusion.

5. xvi. Role of State Disability Commissioner

The Commissioner Disabilities is the key person in the State to represent the needs, issues and entitlements of disability-stakeholders, uphold their rights, and ensure their participation on an equal basis with others. He/She is the true disability-flag-bearer within the State Administration. The Government will strive to have a Commissioner with independent charge: will work towards having a separate department for persons with disabilities, and to change the name of the department to department of Social Justice & Empowerment as seen in several other States. The Government of Meghalaya will work towards strengthening the role of the Commissioner.

5. xvii. Continuation of existing schemes

The Government of Meghalaya will ensure the continuation of existing schemes/benefits for persons with disabilities as well as the initiation of new schemes/ benefits/reservations for persons with disabilities as mandated in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 with special focus on women and children with benchmark disabilities and those with high support needs.

Government of Meghalaya will strive to implement all legal provisions of the Act and shall take steps to draw an Action Plan based on the various sections of the Act.

Annexure-I**1. Comprehensive Accessibility**

It is a necessary pre-runner of inclusion. It involves access to all forms of information and communications, services, public and/ or government buildings and amenities that non disabled people enjoy. Whenever a communication is made it needs to be in formats that are accessible to all. Attitudes that are negative and involve stereotypes, do not promote a rights based approach to disability. It is only if persons are valued, can they be equal partners in all aspects of life of their communities.

2. Reasonable Accommodations and Affirmative Action.

Persons with disabilities may need reasonable accommodations to be on an equal footing with others, i.e., to have equity. It is the duty of every state to ensure that these reasonable accommodations be available and accessible to those who require them.

3. Universal Design and Universal Design of Learning.

In accepting and respecting the essential diversity in human life, we believe that it is the state's responsibility to use the principles of Universal Design in providing services, basic amenities (including transport), the built environment, information and communications, (media-encourage local news channels to include sign language in news) ensuring that they are accessible to all. Not only does this serve persons with disability but can benefit all.

Universal Design of Learning follows this same principle of planning for diversity, rather than retrofitting in the context of learning. This does not imply that there are different or special ways of working with learners with different disabilities, but rather that there are multiple ways in which all learners learn, and that these should be built into the very design of learning.

4. Inclusion

It is a right and freedom which ensures that persons with disabilities be a part of all mainstream activities, programs, events, without discrimination on the basis of disability, delay or deviance. Inclusion in education, employment and social life embraces the concept of diversity as a norm rather than an exception.

5. Equality- Equity- gender and opportunity.

Equality between the genders (male/female and transgender) is an essential aspect of valuing all persons equally. It is often said that disabled women are doubly disabled, as they are more restricted than disabled men.

All human beings also need to be able to access opportunities on an equal basis with others. For this to happen, opportunities must be made available without discrimination but with reasonable accommodation.

6. Individual, family and community empowerment/enablement.

A fundamental principle that shapes the outlook of disability in Meghalaya is the role that individuals with disabilities, their families and communities play in representing their interests. This means that the collective opinion, determination and wisdom of people with disabilities must be used to inform the strategies of the government. In recognising this principle, the government acknowledges the role of organizations of persons with disabilities, and their representatives in the decision making process. This will ensure that decisions taken and implemented will be appropriate for persons with disabilities.

7. Respect for Human Diversity.

This policy is based on the respect for human diversity, and the belief that disability is a right issue and not a welfare one. As such, this policy views diversity as not less in any way but different.

8. Commitment of the Life-Cycle Approach.

As the challenges and needs of persons at different stages of life are varied, persons with disabilities require a diverse range of service through their lives. This would include schemes and activities from different departments at various stages of life.

9. Understanding and appreciating the Legal capacity of persons with disabilities.

Human rights apply equally to persons with disability, and as such, this Policy recognises the legal capacity of persons with disabilities to inherit and own property, access bank loans and other financial credits.

10. Capacity Building and Perspective Building.

In the State of Meghalaya, persons with disabilities, their families and communities are a growing voice. To facilitate the growth of their capacity, and participation in policies, programmes, schemes and activities, it is necessary to have Capacity Building activities.

Perspective building is one of the most important parts of the policy formulation. Through this the policy acquires its strength in terms of multifaceted views so as to eliminate any one-sided bias (Government/NGO). This will also help in making the policy more participative.

The 5th July, 2019.

No.DC.VII/Genl/106/2004-2019/177. - Under the Provision of Section 3 and 4 of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills (Christian Marriage) Act, 1954 (Act No. 11 of 1954) read with Section 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872 the Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council is pleased to grant License to **Rev. Arki Roy Khongsdam** of Khasi Jaintia Presbyterian Synod Mihngi authorising him to grant Certificate(s) of Marriage or Marriages between person(s) both of whom are Christian living within the jurisdiction of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council and falls under the Khasi Jaintia Presbyterian Synod Mihngi subject however to revocation at anytime as may be notified.

D. G. SYIEMIONG,

Secretary to the Executive Committee,
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,
Shillong.

The 5th July, 2019.

No.DC.VII/Genl/106/2004-2019/178. - The Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council is pleased to revoke with immediate effect the Marriage License to the following Rev. named below belonging to the Khasi Jaintia Presbyterian Synod Mihngi granted under Section 6 of the Act, 1872 vide Notification's No.DC.VII/Genl/106/2004-2011/121, dated 16th December, 2011 duly published in the Gazette No. 1 Part IV dated 5th January, 2012, No.DC.VII/Genl/106/2004-2011/121, dated 16th December, 2011 duly published in the Gazette No.1 Part IV dated 5th January, 2012, No.DC.VII/Genl/106/2004-09/57, dated 30th April, 2009 duly published in the Gazette No.11 Part IV dated 7th May, 2009, No.DC.VII/Genl/106/2004-2014/160, dated 21st April, 2014 duly published in the Gazette No. Part IV Dated 5th June, 2014. No.DC.VII/Genl/106/2004-2013/149, dated 3rd May, 2013 duly published in the Gazette No.20 Part IV Dated 20th June, 2013, No.DC.VII/Genl/106/2004-2014/160, dated 21st April, 2014 duly published in the Gazette No. Part IV Dated 5th June, 2014, No.DC.VII/Genl/106/2004-2013/150, dated 2nd May, 2013 duly published in the Gazette No.20 Part IV dated 20th June, 2013.

Sl. No.

Names

1. Rev. E. F. Sohtun, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
2. Rev. Pradeep Nongkynrih, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
3. Rev. T. H. Mukhim, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
4. Rev. Dr. G. B. Pohshna, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
5. Rev. P. Aibor Marbaniang, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
6. Rev. Kampher Pohshna, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
7. Rev. Bantehboklang Nongkynrih, Lum Shyllong Presbytery.

D. G. SYIEMIONG,

Secretary to the Executive Committee,
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,
Shillong.

The 5th July, 2019.

No.DC.VII/Genl/106/2004-2019/179. - Under the Provision of Section 3 and 4 of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills (Christian Marriage) Act, 1954 (United Khasi-Jaintia Hills) Act No. 11 of 1954 *read* with Section 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872 (Act No. XV of 1872) the Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council is pleased to grant License to the following Rev. of Khasi Jaintia Presbyterian Synod Mihngi authorising each to grant Certificate(s) of Marriage or Marriages between person(s) both of whom are Christian living within the jurisdiction of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council and falls under the Khasi Jaintia Presbyterian Synod Mihngi subject however to revocation at anytime as may be notified.

Sl. No.

Names

1. Rev. E. F. Sohtun, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
2. Rev. Pradeep Nongkynrih, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
3. Rev. T. H. Mukhim, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
4. Rev. Dr. G. B. Pohshna, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
5. Rev. P. Aibor Marbaniang, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
6. Rev. Kampher Pohshna, Lum Shyllong Presbytery
7. Rev. Bantehboklang Nongkynrih, Lum Shyllong Presbytery.

D. G. SYIEMIONG,

Secretary to the Executive Committee,
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,
Shillong.

The 9th July, 2019.

No.DC.VII/GenI/PF/282/1992-2019/219.- Under the provision of Section 3 and 4 of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District (Christian Marriage) Act, 1954 (United Khasi-Jaintia Hills) (Act No. 11 of 1954) *read* with Section 6 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872 (Act No. XV of 1872), the Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council is pleased to grant license to the following Rev. named below of Khasi Jaintia Presbyterian Synod Sepngi authorizing each to grant Certificate(s) of Marriage or Marriages between two person(s) one or both of whom is or are Christian living within the Jurisdiction of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council, subject however, to revocation at anytime as may be notified.

Sl. No. Names

1. Rev. Dr. Brightstar Jones Syiemlieh
2. Rev. D. Wilfordstone War
3. Rev. S. Lurshai Nongrum
4. Rev. Andrew Suiam
5. Rev. Pynjanai Kharumlong
6. Rev. Ksankupar B. Lynser
7. Rev. Richmond Evergreen Born Sohlang
8. Rev. Balbannard Kharkongor
9. Rev. B. Shiningstar Kurbah
10. Rev. Firstbornson Nongrum
11. Rev. Olson Kordon Marngar
12. Rev. Pyndapborlang Myrthong
13. Rev. Shiastarly Lyngdoh Mawlong
14. Rev. Banangsan Syiemlieh.

D. G. SYIEMIONG,

Secretary to the Executive Committee,
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,
Shillong.

The 15th July, 2019.

No.DC.VII/GenI/154/2004-2019/225.- Under the provision of Section 3 & 4 of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District (Christian Marriage) Act, 1954 (United Khasi Jaintia Hills) (Act No. 11 of 1954) *read* with Section 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, the Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council is pleased to grant license to the following persons of the Ri-Bhoi Presbyterian Synod authorizing each to grant Certificate(s) of Marriage or Marriages between person(s) both of whom are Christian living within the Jurisdiction of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council, subject however, to revocation at anytime as may be notified.

Sl. No. Names

1. Rev. Philip Bay
2. Rev. Precious Stone Nongshli
3. Pro-Pastor Camfairly Klein.

D. G. SYIEMIONG,
Secretary to the Executive Committee,
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,
Shillong.

The 23rd July, 2019.

No.DCVII/GenI/226/1992-2019/99. - Under the provision of Section 3 and 4 of the United Khasi Jaintia Hills District (Christian Marriage) Act, 1954 (United Khasi Jaintia Hills) (Act No. 11 of 1954) *read* with Section 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, the Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council, is pleased to grant license to Mr. Benin D. Marak of Garo Baptist Convention Church authorizing him to grant Certificate(s) of marriage or marriages between person(s) both of whom are Christian living within the jurisdiction of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council, subject however , to revocation at anytime as may be notified.

D. G. SYIEMIONG,
Secretary to the Executive Committee,
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,
Shillong.